

**From:** jeremy  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/9/02 3:22pm  
**Subject:** public comment on Microsoft anti-trust case

Ms. Renata Hesse -

As a citizen of the United States I'm very disturbed by the settlement proposal of the Microsoft antitrust case. Given the verdicts of a federal judge and federal appeals court judges affirming the basic guilt of Microsoft as a monopoly, I think the proposed DOJ settlement does NOT go far enough to remedy the situation. As a consumer I believe my choices have been limited by the monopoly and am disappointed the settlement does little to change that fact. Moreover, I'm concerned by a weak enforcement mechanism to assure the enforcement of the provisions, ineffective as they are. Even rigidly enforced, I have grave doubts the provisions would accomplish anything positive.

I suspect the Bush administration is concerned about expending taxpayer money in litigation. At this point, if this settlement were approved, I would think it a bigger waste of money; to have come so far and proved so much only to opt for a weak settlement that does not prevent Microsoft from leveraging its monopoly in the future is futile and non-sensical. To make the investment worthwhile, as a US citizen, I think a new settlement should be put in play that is designed to prevent Microsoft from leveraging its monopoly to the detriment of competition. At this point, only a new, tougher remedy proposal would make the litigation worthwhile and useful to me as a citizen of the United States, a consumer, and personal computer user.

Additionally, my concern is that given the present economic situation, the Bush administration is concerned that by pursuing a tough remedy that it would hurt a big, successful company and therefore do more damage to a fragile economy. Personally, I believe that by breaking up Microsoft it would unlock more shareholder value. The sum of all shares in the new companies would be worth more than the present value of one Microsoft. Additionally, I believe it would create more jobs in a hurting tech sector as more programming and administrative staff are hired by the new companies. I also think it would invigorate the tech sector as more small companies find an atmosphere where they can compete and introduce new products and technologies that have a better chance at success.

In short, please pursue a tougher remedy that will prevent Microsoft from leveraging its monopoly and create more competition and consumer choice. Please reconsider your position and advocate a stronger remedy that will truly bring the technology industry to a new level of innovation and competition.

Sincerely,  
Jeremy Wilmarth

